

IDAHO NEWS RELEASE



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IDAHO LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS TO PARTICIPATE IN MIDYEAR CATTLE SURVEY

Nearly 400 Idaho livestock producers will be part of a national sample of farmers and ranchers who will be contacted between June 28 and July 12, for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's annual July Cattle Survey.

The information gathered from this major survey will be used to arrive at a U.S. estimate of cattle inventories at midyear, and provides the first estimate of the 2004 calf crop.

"Cattle prices continue to show strength and this survey is an important tool to benchmark where United States cattle inventories are at midyear," said Don Gerhardt, State Statistician. "Timely, accurate and relevant midyear inventory estimates help to provide a basis for an orderly marketing system as cattle producers strive to sustain the current trend", added Gerhardt.

"We are asking for cooperation of Idaho cattle producers so we can ensure that our state is fully represented in the national sample," emphasized Gerhardt.

Facts about an individual's operations are strictly confidential and used only in combination with reports from other agricultural producers to arrive at accurate, reliable, unbiased statistics for the Nation.

After they have compiled and analyzed results of the survey, the information will be released by the Agricultural Statistics Board on July 23, 2004. Those producers who participate in the survey will receive a special summary of the results.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507